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APPENDIX D

KENNEL AND TRAINING AREA PLACEMENT/CRITERIA

1. Kennel Placement and Military Working Dog (MWD) Protection.

Location of kennel facilities must be carefully considered. Determine kennel site with a view toward cost reduction, such as modifying an existing facility/building. If this is not feasible, the placement of the kennel should be such that security, support, and other administrative functions can be provided from existing buildings. Areas of concern are: shade, temperature control, ventilation, drainage, ease of cleaning, separation of MWDs, and safety. Civil engineers and veterinarians must be consulted. The objective is to build a kennel, meeting essential requirements, at the least cost. Adequate security lighting is a must. The following considerations will be observed in selecting a suitable location:

a. Odors/Noise. Do not locate kennel facility in an area which may be harmful to the MWDs senses. Avoid areas near aircraft runways/taxiways, engine test cells, small arms ranges, or other areas where the average sound level for any 24-hour period exceeds 75 decibels. In addition, MWDs that are continually disturbed by pedestrian/vehicular traffic, industrial activity, and other distractions cannot be expected to function properly. Where feasible, the kennel should be located so that natural barriers such as hills, trees, and large shrubs separate these areas from the kennel facility.

b. Water Supply. Large quantities of hot and potable cold water are needed for cleaning and drinking. Impurities in the water can be a source of disease for both handler and MWDs.

c. Fire Protection. Water-type fire extinguishers are generally used in the kennel area. At least one fire extinguisher must be provided for each 2,500 square feet in the kennel and support buildings. Local surroundings, however, may cause the type and number of fire extinguishers to vary. Fire department inspectors should be consulted for fire extinguisher requirements.

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d. Fencing. Perimeter fencing will meet requirements per reference (r). Fencing will be 8 feet high topped with a single seven to nine gauge strand of barbed wire vice a top guard, with no ground clearance.

e. Off-Limits Signs. All sides of the kennel and training areas will be posted with "Off-Limits Military Police Dog" signs. The signs will be constructed of sheet metal, measure 30 inches by 40 inches and wording must be visible for at least 50 yards. The background will be white; the words "Off-Limits" and "Danger" will be in red letters; and the wording "Military Police Dog" will be in blue striping. In foreign countries, signs will be lettered in the language of the host country, as well as English.

f. Waste Disposal. Facility engineers must be contacted with regard to waste disposal. Alternate waste disposal systems must be developed in cases where facility/municipal waste disposal systems are not capable of accepting animal waste or are non-existent.

2. Training Area. A secure training area is required to provide a place where training in advanced obedience, confidence training, and correction of deficiencies in off-leash control, can be held. To simplify problems of transportation, the training area should be located near the kennels. All training areas must meet the following criteria:

a. The entire training area must be fenced.

b. The surface of the training area must be free of items that are harmful to the handlers/MWDs, i.e., sharp rocks, broken glass, sand burrs, holes, etc. The surface should be graded to prevent standing water.

c. The minimum size of the training area should be approximately 75 feet by 150 feet to allow adequate room for off-leash training exercises.

d. A confidence course should be built in each training area. The obstacles may be built from salvaged materials. Each obstacle must have padding and a non-skid surface to prevent

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injuries to the MWDs. Contact the 341 Training Squadron, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX for guidance.

3. Kennel Criteria

a. Sufficient electrical outlets (weather type) are to be provided such that portable electric heaters can be connected during freezing conditions.

b. All openings leading to areas within the building are to be protected with insect screening.

c. To facilitate cleaning and minimize the potential spread of disease, kennel surfaces shall be impervious; i.e., concrete floor surfaces shall be steel trowel finished and sealed. Concrete masonry unit partitions between kennels are to have a liquid glaze applied surface.

d. Provide drainage troughs in kennel spaces to simplify washdown and associated waste disposal. The kennel floor should be sloped to the troughs.

e. Provide a hot water heater of sufficient capacity to manage required washdowns and clean-up.

f. The size of each kennel, including the circulation space, shall not exceed 75 square feet per dog. Kennel run dimensions will be constructed using the following guidelines:

(1) The outside run area will be a minimum of 4'6" wide by 5'4" in length. Maximum size of 5 x 6 feet.

(2) The inside run area will be a minimum of 4'10" wide by 4'6" in length. Maximum size of 5 x 5 feet.

g. A support space, 150 square feet maximum, can be provided to accommodate a food preparation and work/treatment area.

h. A deep sink will be provided in the support space for food preparation and sanitary functions.

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i. Adjacent kennels shall be separated by concrete masonry unit partitions to a height of 4 feet to prevent injury to the animals.

j. Roof overhang shall extend beyond drain troughs. This is necessary to avoid overloading the sewage system during heavy rains.